

National Executive Candidates 2027 – 2028

Curriculum Vitae



Name: Phonderly Siohane
Nominated for: General Membership

Kia Hiwa Ra! Mauri Ora!
Mahofihofi atu kia Mutolu osi,
Monu Tagaloa!!

Name and Background

- **Name:** Phonderly Siohane
- **Heritage:** Niuean, Hakupu Atua Village
- **Languages:** English, Niuean, me Te Reo Māori
- **Professional Roles:** Deputy Principal New Windsor School, BOT staff representative.

NZEI Experience

- **Membership Duration:** 38+ years
- **Initial Contributions:** Active member : First Exec team for NZEI Komiti Pasifika Auckland Branch
 - **Roles Held:** Secretary, Vice President of Komiti Pasifika Auckland
- **Auckland Branch Leadership:**
 - President (7 years)
 - Vice President (2 years)
 - Immediate Past President (5 years))
- **Current Role:** Exec team member Auckland Area Council Roopu

Auckland Area Council Involvement

- **Vice-Chair:** Auckland Area Council (Under old Area Council structure)
- **Recognition:** Received NZEI Associates Award (2015)
- Fellows Award (2024)
- **National Executive:** Elected first time in 2016, as highest polling general member vote. Re-elected twice highest polling general member
- Current National Exec/Kahu Kiwi general member.
- **Pasifika Leadership:** National Pasifika Leadership Caucus Group
- NZEI National Pasifika Fonos/ Pasifika Niuean language/Vagahau Niue networks.
- Pasifika Niutoni Presbyterian Church networks
- **Joint Initiatives:** Ministry of Education on Pasifika Strand (2016-2022)
- **Qualifications:**
 - Diploma in Teaching
 - Post-Graduate Diploma
 - TESOL papers

- **Governance and Leadership Experience:**

- Extensive leadership /governance experience through Deputy Principal /acting Principal roles /School BOT board staff rep roles.
- part of strategic decisions affecting NZEI's ongoing direction

National Curriculum Publications

- **Contributions:**

- NZ Social Studies Curriculum Document
- (Writing party for 1990 Social Studies Curriculum document)
- English as a Second Language Resource publications
- Current NZ Social Sciences Curriculum Refresh document : writing party representing NZEI
- Aotearoa Histories Curriculum Documentation writing group
- Member of Ministry of Education writing group for the Tapasa document.
- Facilitator for Tapasa workshops Ministry of Education PD workshops.

Current Goals

- **Seeking:** Another 2-year term on Te Kahu Kiwi ,General member.
- **Vision:** Continue to Bring a bicultural /Pasifika/Multicultural perspective to NZEI Kahu Kiwi governance, advocating for quality education and active member engagement with all diverse membership groups
- **Commitment:** Strengthen union growth, member activism, respond to challenges posed by current government actions, addressing inequalities within our Schools.

Unity /Collective Action

Now, more than ever, we must stand united.

Together we can overcome the challenges facing our profession, uphold our role as kaitiaki (guardians) of public education, and continue advocating for an equitable, inclusive, and well-resourced education system for every learner.

Real change has never come from individuals acting alone. It has always come from people standing together with a shared purpose and a commitment to justice.

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Working Together, we can shape the future of education for generations to come.

Leadership Through Service

I am committed to serving our union with integrity, courage, and purpose.

I will continue to advance the interests of our members, champion quality public education, and advocate for social justice and equitable outcomes for every learner.

I am committed to maintaining and strengthening our partnerships with Māori and Pasifika communities, recognising that these relationships are fundamental to creating an education system where every child belongs and succeeds.

Mōku Te Ao represents nga pou that guides my leadership within our union activism—
grounding my work in service, equity, partnership, and collective responsibility.

Together, let us protect what we have fought so hard to achieve, and continue striving for an
education system that values every learner, every educator, and every community.

O le ala i le pule o le tautua.

The path to leadership is through service.

Ia manuia! Fa'afetai lava! Fakaue lahi!

Nominated by:

Taitokerau Area Council/Auckland Area Council